

**Amendments to the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 12 - 21 which were placed on file during the prosecution of the PCT application.

1. (Currently amended) A water treatment apparatus comprising a water inlet port, a water outlet port and a fluid flow path extending from the water inlet port to the water outlet port, a filtration member comprising at least two containers including a top container and a lower container positioned below the top container, the filtration member having an absence of a housing enclosing the top container, each of the containers containing sand wherein water flows sequentially through the sand in the top container and the sand in the lower container in sequential flow communication, each of which contains sand and at least one of the containers the top container is separately removable from the apparatus, wherein each of the containers that is removable has a water inlet port and a water outlet port, and each of the containers that is removable includes a water outlet port sealing member.
2. (Original) The water treatment apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein each of the containers is removable from the water treatment apparatus.
3. Cancelled
4. (Original) The water treatment apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein each of the containers is individually removable from the water treatment apparatus.
5. Cancelled
6. (Previously amended) The water treatment apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the containers are connected in flow communication that the water to be treated flows sequentially through the containers.

7. (Previously amended) The water treatment apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein each of the containers that is removable includes a water inlet port sealing member.
8. (Original) The water treatment apparatus as claimed in claim 7 wherein the water inlet port sealing member and the water outlet port sealing member automatically seal the inlet and outlet ports when the container is removed from the apparatus.
9. (Original) The water treatment apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the containers are configured to define a top container and the top container is provided with biological material in a cartridge which is openable.
10. (Original) The water treatment apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein biological material in a cartridge which is openable is provided in at least one container.
11. (Original) The water treatment apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein biological material to promote the formation of schmutzdecke is provided in at least one container.

12-35 Cancelled